

Application No.: 09/547,369

Docket No.: 20421-00059-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the attached Abstract filed herewith.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**LOCAL MAC ADDRESS LEARNING IN LAYER 2 FRAME FORWARDING**

Method and apparatus for receiving a data frame on a received port of a network switch. The data frame includes a source media access control (MAC) address for the first device, and a destination MAC address for a second device connected to another port of the network. The data frame is forwarded to a target port which is connected to the second device. The MAC address is learned locally at the target port which facilitates communications for frames which later enter the target port and contain addresses previously learned from a received frame.